

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAGHDA 01065 020609Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 FBO-02 /065 W
-----036555 021001Z /12

R 291051Z JUN 77
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4720
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAGHDAD 1065

FOR NEA/ARN

JIDDA FOR WILEY

TEHRAN FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, IZ
SUBJECT: DETENTION OF LOCAL EMPLOYEE

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 1038, (B) JIDDA 4411

1. SOUSA STILL NOT RELEASED AS OF 1200 JUNE 28. ON
OFFICIAL BASIS, MY REPRESENTATIONS HAVE NOT GONE BEYOND
REPEATED EFFORTS TO OBTAIN REPLY TO OUR NOTE (REF.A).
THIS AT LEAST KEEPS MATTER ALIVE BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS AND
LAYS BASIS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION.

2. ZAHAWI (REF. B) IS AWARE OF SOUSA'S DETENTION. BELGIAN
AMBASSADOR RAHIR, AFTER DONSULTATION WITH ME, RAISED
MATTER INFORMALLY WITH ZAHAWI AT SOCIAL OCCASION ON
JUNE 25. RAHIR TOLD ZAHAWI THAT MATTER CAME TO HIS
ATTENTIONBECAUSE MRS. SOUSA CAME TO HIS HOUSE AND ASKED
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HIS HELP.
RAHIR ADDED THAT I WE IN TOUCH WITH PROTOCOL AND
CONSULAR SECTIONS ABOUT THE CASE. ZAHAWI PROMISED TO
LOOK INTO THE MATTER. ZAHWAI ALSO MENTIONED MARSHALL
WILEY'S REQUEST OF MAY 24 TO ASSIST WITH SOUSA FAMILY'S
EMIGRATION,AND REHIAR RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT ZAHAWI
HAD PASSED WILEY'S REQUEST ON TO OTHER AUTHORITIES.

AS EXPLAINED IN A SEPARATE COMMUNICATION TO COUNTRY DIRECTOR DRAPER. I HAVE CONSIDERABLE RESERVATIONS ABOUT FORMAL APPROACH TO ZAHAWI, BUT I WILL USE THAT CHANNEL IF DEPARTMENT SO INSTRUCTS.

3. ON JUNE 25, I ENTERTAINED IN MY HOME AN IRAQI WHO IS A CLOSE PERSONAL FRIEND OF DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE SAADOUN SHAKER. THIS CONTACT WAS HELPFUL TO ONE OF THE ARAB AMBASSADORS IN A SIMILAR SITUATION. I TOLD HIM OF SOUSA'S DETENTION, STRESSING HUMANITARIAN ASPECT AND SOUSA'S IGNORANCE OF ALL BUT MOST ROUTINE AND UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION ABOUT USINT. CONTACT AGREED AS A FRIEND TO LOOK INTO MATTER, AND ON JUNE 27 HE RETURNED TO SAY THAT SOUSA'S PROBLEM WAS NOT SERIOUS AND THAT HE WOULD BE RELEASED.

4. MRS. SOUSA WAS TAKEN TO SADDAM HUSSEIN'S OFFICE FOR CALL ARRANGED MY MINISTER OF STATE UBADALLAH MUSTAFA. SHE WAS TOLD BY AN ASSISTANT OF HUSSEIN THAT HER HUSBAND WOULD BE RELEASED, BUT NO DATE WAS SET.

TODAY SHE IS ATTEMPTING TO SEE MINISTER OF INTERIOR.

5. COMMENT: IT MIGHT SEEM MORE CANDID TO CONFRONT ISSUE HEAD ON WITH DEMARCHE TO MFA STRESSING POSSIBLE NEGATIVE IMPACT ON US-IRAQI RELATIONS. I REMAIN OF CONFIDENTIAL

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THE VIEW THAT THIS APPROACH COULD BE HARMFUL TO SOUSA'S INTERESTS.
MACK

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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